

Abu Odeh honours Gaza delegation

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Information, Adnan Abu Odeh, who is also head of the Executive Office for Occupied Territories Affairs, Thursday night gave a dinner banquet in honour of the visiting delegation from the Gaza Strip (story on p. 3). The delegation is here to present its condolences to His Majesty King Hussein and the royal family for the death of Her Majesty Queen Ayla. Prime Minister Mudar Badran attended the banquet. Mr. Abu Odeh told members of the delegation that their journey to Amman, which must have involved considerable hardship, was proof positive of the historic fraternal ties binding the Arab peoples on the two sides of the Jordan River. The delegation will return to Gaza Friday morning.

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NBC signs on Henry Kissinger

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (R). — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has signed a five-year agreement with the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) to appear in at least one major news documentary a year and serve as special consultant on world affairs, NBC President Herbert Schlosser said today. Mr. Schlosser refused to disclose any monetary details of the agreement, which takes effect next July. He said that, under the agreement, Dr. Kissinger would help plan special documentaries in cooperation with NBC's news department. In addition, the former secretary of state would make interview appearances on other NBC news programmes, when they involved particularly important developments in foreign affairs.

King Hussein: Oil is the most effective weapon the Arabs have

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein today said Arab countries to use more efficiently as a weapon in the Middle East conflict. In an interview in the Lebanese weekly "Al Hawadeth" published here, the King said Arab countries would "fail" if they were "incapable of using oil as a weapon, of creating the conditions necessary to its use, and of knowing how to use it to support the countries in the battlefield." "Unless we use oil as a weapon well and ensure after success... we shall run into an economic lead end," he said. His Majesty pointed out that the convening of the Geneva conference might be a good start against too much optimism which may lead us to the opposite extreme — despair. "We are prepared to discuss the possibility of cooperating for the liberation of the land and the means of recovering it," he said.

and efficient armament in the world," he said. Israeli military position would undoubtedly be reflected at the Geneva conference, he implied. On the Arab side, the military situation is not encouraging, he added. King Hussein said that encouraged by its military strength, Israel was unable to choose peace with its neighbours because of its desire to hold on to the Arab occupied territories. He stated that the Israeli leadership lacked the courage to adopt any decision which could get everybody started on the way towards peace... at the present stage at least. King Hussein also said it was essential to reach a formula of understanding with the Palestinian commando movement, but added that he would not allow a return to "the disaster in Jordan in 1970."



His Majesty King Hussein in conversation with Mr. Mikhail Sytenko (second from left) at the Royal Hashemite Court Thursday. (JNA photo).

King Hussein meets Mikhail Sytenko

AMMAN (JNA). — Mr. Mikhail Sytenko, in charge of Middle East affairs at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Thursday met His Majesty King Hussein to discuss Jordan's position on the Middle East. Mr. Sytenko has paid similar visits to Syria and Egypt, and will complete his tour in Lebanon. During the meeting, attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the King emphasised that Jordan and the Arab front-line states were working together "within a unified Arab strategy, which aims at liberating the occupied Arab territories and giving the Palestinian people their right of self-determination."

De Guiringaud to meet PLO's Kaddoumi after Beirut visit

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17 (Agencies) — French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud said tonight he expected to meet a leading official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Farouk Kaddoumi, in Damascus tomorrow. De Guiringaud made the announcement at a press conference in Beirut, the first stop of a four-nation Middle East tour aimed at establishing what France can play in help settle the protracted Middle East conflict. Kaddoumi is head of the PLO's Political Department and actively the Foreign Minister of the organisation. The French foreign minister said what he expected to discuss with the PLO leader. De Guiringaud will also have talks tomorrow in Damascus with President of the Palestinian National Council Khalil Al Fehoum, an authoritative French source said here.



FRENCH-LEBANANESE TALKS -- French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud (left) talks with his Lebanese counterpart Farouk Butros at Beirut International airport Wednesday. De Guiringaud is on a two-day visit to Lebanon. (AP wirephoto).

ces have never been so favourable. It was in this quest for peace, he said that he would be visiting Damascus, Amman, Cairo and Israel. Winding up his visit here today, he warned that France was going through an austere period when aid to foreign countries was difficult to find. However, he said: "I have asked Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, for special credit to pay for missions of experts requested by Lebanon." M. de Guiringaud, said his talks today with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis and Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss had left him relatively optimistic on the prospects for peace in the Middle East. He predicted that Lebanon would regain its former role as the financial centre of the Middle East if security continued, and the reconciliation between rival groups made progress.

Death of archbishop, 2 ministers in Uganda brings charges of assassination against Idi Amin

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 17 (R). — The Ugandan government said today that the Anglican archbishop of Uganda and two cabinet ministers were killed in a crash after being arrested on alleged complicity in a plot to overthrow President Idi Amin. An announcement over Uganda radio about 16 hours after three men died drew reactions of shock and angry disbelief from outside the country, including charges that they were murdered. The Ugandan announcement that Archbishop Jannani Lunn, Interior Minister Archbishop Charles Obo-Otumbi and Minister Erenayo Wilson were trying to overthrow their driver and escape being taken for interrogation. They were arrested after soldiers at a rally chanted "Kill him, kill them" on hearing statements implicating the archbishop and others in the plot. The United Nations, Mr. Young said, "strongly condemned what it called the 'killing' in Uganda of the Anglican archbishop and the two government ministers under arrest for 'alleged involvement in

a supposed plot against President Idi Amin." The council called for an international investigation into the "killing." It also requested the United Nations Human Rights Commission to probe rights violations in Uganda and appealed to African nations "to take actions against further loss of life in Uganda." In London, Dr. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of Canterbury and primate of the Anglican Church, expressed deep shock and horror at the death of Archbishop Lunn, whom he described as a "my dear friend." Dr. Coggan also voiced his solidarity with African church leaders who have challenged the Amin government. A British member of parliament, Mr. Greville Janner, told reporters: "This looks like another cover up for a disgraceful and bloody murder." In Nairobi, the general secretary of the All African Conference of Churches, Canon Burgess Carr, said he regarded the death of Archbishop Lunn as "murder by the Ugandan government security forces." (Continued on page 6)

Sadat hails Carter as a "great statesman," again calls for link between Jordan, Palestinians

CAIRO, Feb. 17 (R). — President Anwar Sadat tonight hailed the decision announced today by the United States not to supply Israel with highly-destructive concussion bombs as an act of "great statesmanship." Appearing at a press conference with visiting U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, Mr. Sadat expressed Egypt's deep gratitude both for American economic assistance and for President Carter's decision not to sell the concussion bomb to Israel. The Egyptian leader said the decision was "a very positive step and showed great statesmanship from the side of President Carter."

what concessions would be made by Egypt if Israel returned to its 1967 borders and a Palestinian state was established. The president said he did not want to disclose Egypt's negotiating position before the Geneva conference resumed. Asked whether he stood by his previous statements that it was up to the next generation to make a real peace with Israel -- including full diplomatic relations -- he replied: "I never said peace would be postponed. What I said is that we are now for establishing a permanent peace in the area and ending the state of belligerence after 28 years..."



VANCE IN CAIRO -- U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance (left) and his Egyptian counterpart Ismail Fahmy answer newsmen's questions upon the former's arrival in Cairo Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

During the news conference, Mr. Sadat also announced he would visit the United States in early April and urged Jordan and the Palestinians to establish "an official link" even before the resumption of the Geneva peace conference later this year. President Sadat has previously advocated a link between Jordan and a new Palestinian state which might be set up on Israeli-occupied territory on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. But tonight, he said there should be "a formal and declared link between the Palestinians and Jordan even before the Geneva conference meets."

President Sadat also expressed his gratitude for a \$500 million loan from the United States. President Sadat told the news conference that peace in the Middle East could not be achieved without the United States. Even though it did not please some people, he said, 99 per cent of the Middle East cards were in the hands of the United States.



IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE -- At the end of their luncheon meeting Israel's Premier Yitzhak Rabin (right) and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance hold an unscheduled press conference on the steps of the Prime Minister's office in occupied Jerusalem. (AP wirephoto).

Mr. Vance, who arrived in Cairo earlier today from Israel, told reporters he hoped the Geneva talks could be resumed in the second half of this year. "I still believe that is the best estimate one can make," Mr. Vance said.

The U.S. secretary of state added that he was not proposing that the step-by-step process towards peace in the Middle East be resumed, and Mr. Sadat commented that those days were now over and the time had come for a global solution.

The two appeared at the press conference after about two hours of talks at Mr. Sadat's rest house north of here. President Sadat's proposal for a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation was believed aimed at meeting Israel's objection to a separate delegation representing the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at Geneva.

Mr. Arafat said he had made two visits to Cairo in 48 hours to coordinate Egyptian and Palestinian efforts on the Palestinian issue, as well as on general Arab and international matters. He announced that a delegation headed by Mr. Khaled Fahoum, President of the Palestinian National Council, would go to Amman this week for talks on Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

Asked whether Egypt had urged the PLO to accept the existence of the state of Israel, Mr. Sadat said only that PLO leader Yasser Arafat had met Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy here earlier today "and they discussed this." He refused to elaborate but said it was up to the Palestinian people to decide on their goals. President Sadat was asked

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White House announces Sale of concussion bomb to Israel is called off

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AFP). — The White House announced today that the United States had decided against supplying Israel with the controversial CBU-72 concussion bombs promised by President Gerald Ford in the last weeks of his presidency. The decision had been generally expected here and in Israel after President Jimmy Carter expressed his reluctance to furnish the highly destructive weapons to any foreign country. White House spokesman Jody Powell said no country would be allowed to purchase the concussion bombs, and it was not even certain they would be mass-produced for the U.S. army. The bomb, which is dropped

by parachute from a plane, releases a volatile fuel into the air which catches fire. The combination of fire and blast destroys all vegetation and buildings within its radius of action. Mr. Ford agreed to supply Israel with the weapons in the midst of the presidential election campaign, despite recommendations to the contrary from the State Department and the Pentagon. Mr. Carter's decision to refuse delivery was made early this week, but the announcement was postponed to allow U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, currently on a Middle East tour, to inform the Israelis.

Carter envoy begins Cyprus mission

ATHENS, Feb. 17 (R). — President Carter's special envoy Clark Clifford arrived here today hoping to maintain the new diplomatic momentum over the Cyprus problem. The former American defence secretary is on a fact-finding mission to Athens, Ankara and Nicosia to determine the role the United States can play in solving the dispute. He specified earlier that the role will be one of assistance to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. "The negotiations will be his primary responsibility," he told reporters in Vienna. Mr. Clifford conferred in the Austrian capital with Dr. Waldheim, whose talks in Cyprus last Saturday ended in agreement by Greek and Turkish-Cypriot leaders to resume next month their deadlocked talks on the future of the island. Cyprus will top the agenda when Mr. Clifford begins talks tomorrow with Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis and other leaders. Other topics are expected to include the Greek-Turkish dispute over territorial rights in the Aegean Sea and

the future status of U.S. military bases in Greece. Greece withdrew from NATO's military wing when Turkey invaded Cyprus in the summer of 1974 and occupied about 40 per cent of the island, which has a population of 500,000 Greek and 100,000 Turkish Cypriots. It has stated that it will reconsider its position within NATO when the reasons which dictated its withdrawal no longer exist. Talks between the two communities on the island founded for a year on such basic issues as territorial rights, the constitutional balance of power and the presence of Turkish troops. Mr. Clifford said before leaving Vienna that estimates that the talks might be successfully concluded by the end of this year might be too optimistic. But he hoped the discussions would be wound up by early next year. Failure to find a solution could lead to a new flare-up in that part of the world, he added. Mr. Clifford leaves for Ankara on Sunday.

Young: Violence is no solution for S. Africa

UNITED NATIONS, New York, Feb. 17 (AFP). — American Ambassador to the U.N. Andrew Young today rejected the idea of material support by the United States to armed liberation movements but gave full backing to diplomatic efforts to achieve a settlement in Southern Africa. At his first press conference since being named to the U.S. post, Mr. Young said the U.S. had no desire to take over the process of negotiations in Rhodesia but would support British efforts there. Britain believed the solution must be an African one, he said, and the U.S. would do its best to promote that goal. "The diplomatic power of the liberation movements is far superior to their military strength," he noted. "Armed struggle inevitably tends to be destructive. The less you destroy, the better everybody is."

Fighting in South Lebanon reported

BEIRUT, Feb. 17 (AFP). — South Lebanon exploded today with fresh exchanges of artillery and automatic fire, reports reaching here said. The reports said the exchanges were taking place in the area of Qle'a and Marjeyoun opposite the Israeli frontier town of Metoulla.

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An open letter to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance The mistakes have not yet ended

It's a bit hard for us to keep a straight face when we hear you repeat that you are here in the Middle East this week on a "fact-finding" mission. Are we to assume that the United States does not have the facts about everybody's position on a peaceful Middle East settlement? We appreciate the delicate position you are in, and thus we play along with the theatrics that are part of your difficult job. If you say you're here to listen, here are a few thoughts you may wish to discuss with President Carter when you return home.

It is an exercise in futility and childish stubbornness for you to refuse to talk to the PLO in the manner that you have so refused, just as it was a costly exercise in similarly childish futility for your country to have believed at one point that it could win the Vietnam war by bombing that country to smithereens. The American position about refusing to talk to the PLO until the PLO recognises Israel is a dangerous one for your country to maintain if you really wish to be a peace broker in the Middle East. The fact is that your nation is uniquely qualified to help bring peace to the Middle East, and peace can be had if you have the courage to look at the depth of the Palestinian-Zionist conflict, and the wisdom to help reconcile the certainly reconcilable differences between Palestinians and Israelis. In your statements about the PLO, you are only repeating what the Israelis want you to repeat. The process is a national humiliation for your country, and a serious constraint upon your ability to play a positive role in the Middle East search for peace. Are you really trying to mediate honestly between Arabs and Israelis, or are you just being coerced into adopting Israel's fears in your own nation's Middle East policy? You might ponder this during your long flight back to Washington next week.

The choice before the United States is whether or not it has the will to act decisively for peace, which means, above all, convincing the Israelis that they can have their peace if they allow peace to the Palestinians.

You must overcome Israeli fears, not adopt them. You must triumph over the national wounds of history, not open them.

You must act to initiate a dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians, not to put it off.

During your Senate confirmation hearing recently, you said bravely that the United States had made a mistake in Vietnam. We look forward to the day when you will tell the Senate that the United States has made mistakes in the Middle East, and pray for all of us that you shall not return home after this trip only to repeat the mistakes of the past.



Ethiopian events have more than local weight

By Geoffrey Godsell

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

ADDIS ABABA. — The latest upheaval in Ethiopia was more of a palace revolution than a coup. But is a sharp reminder that:

1. Ethiopia itself is under the greatest threat of breakup and of returning to its 19th-century chaos than at any time since the late Emperor Haile Selassie established the central authority of the Amhara people throughout his empire.
2. Once any such breakup began, Ethiopia's neighbours might seek to change the map of Africa to their advantage. In the process, the Soviet Union could get an even bigger foothold in the strategically-placed Horn of Africa. (Moscow already has the use of military facilities in Somalia.)

The military junta, or Dergue, running Ethiopia is still basically the same group of men who ousted Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974 — with the exception of those killed off in struggles within the group since then.

On Feb. 3, the nominal head of state, Gen. Teferi Benti, and six of his colleagues were killed in a shoot-out at Dergue headquarters. In the early days of the Dergue, in November, 1974, Gen. Benti's predecessor as head of state, Gen. Aman Andom, was killed on orders of other members of the junta. Last week's killings leave Lieut. Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam as top man. He had long been considered the most powerful and ambitious man in the Dergue. It is possible that an attempt by fellow officers (including Gen. Benti) some weeks ago to clip his wings lies behind what happened. Col. Mengistu may be top man now, but the Dergue as a whole remains in deeper trouble than at any time since it ousted the emperor. It has on its hands:

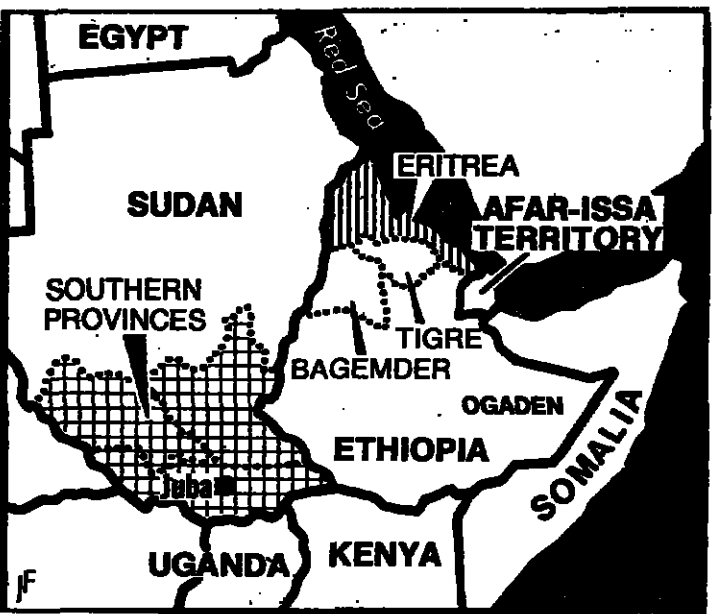
— Local disaffection in and around the capital, organised or fed by urban and intellectual Marxists in the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party. The latter is blamed for a number of assassinations or assassination attempts in the capital, Addis Ababa.
— A worsening of the situation in Eritrea, where a well-armed and determined separatist movement has long been fighting to take the province out of Ethiopia and establish it as an independent state.
— Military challenges in the provinces of Tigre and Bagemder, which lie between the Sudanese border and Eritrea. In Tigre, the revolt is led by the Marxist-influenced Tigre Popular Liberation Front and Bagemder by the Ethiopian Democratic Union (whose supporters include traditionalists and Ethiopian politicians in exile).
— Renewed hostility from the Sudanese government of President Jaafar Nimeiri, with whom the Dergue has been trading protests and threats in recent weeks. The Dergue is outraged at Gen. Nimeiri's resumed support of the Eritrean separatist guerrillas.
— Gen. Nimeiri counter-charged that Ethiopia not only supported separatists in Sudan's southern provinces but is currently helping former Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi in the latter's attempts from outside to bring Gen. Nimeiri down. (Earlier this month, there was an unsuccessful coup attempt in Juba in the southern Sudan.)
— Continuing hostility from the government of Somalia, long suspected of waiting for an opportunity to absorb the So-

mal-populated Ethiopian province of Ogaden and the mainly Somali-populated French Territory of Afars and Issas. The latter is due to become independent later this year — and Ethiopia and Somalia both covet it. The territory's capital and port, Djibouti, is Addis Ababa's only rail outlet to the sea. If Djibouti came under the control of Somalia, already a client of the Soviet Union, Moscow would gain a wider strategic advantage at the narrow straits controlling the entrance to the Red Sea. These narrow straits are the southern approach both to the Suez Canal. Simultaneously, Moscow would get a much bigger area of friendly real estate in the Horn of Africa, the promontory into the Indian Ocean astride supertanker routes between the oil-rich Gulf and the petroleum markets of Western Europe and North America. Consequently what is hap-

pening in Ethiopia has considerably more than local implications — particularly since the United States has been one of the chief suppliers of aid to the Dergue, as it was to the emperor before.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Dr. Haitham Hourani's column Economic Viewpoint will not be appearing for the coming seven weeks. Dr. Hourani apologises to his readers for the unavoidable but temporary inconvenience. For the duration, Mr. Jenab Tutunji's column in Perspective, which normally appears Friday, will appear in Sunday's paper in place of Dr. Hourani's column.



NEWS FOCUS

Carter's arms policy is to block nuclear accords between other countries

By Mohsin Ali
LONDON, Feb. 17 (R). — President Carter's new administration is treading cautiously in its efforts to block, or change, nuclear deals between West Germany and Brazil and between France and Pakistan.

The proposed sales of nuclear re-processing plants — highly complex facilities from which nuclear weapons could be developed — are sensitive issues for the U.S.

During the presidential election campaign last year, Mr. Carter said he would try to prevent proliferation of nuclear processing plants.

But when French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt met in Paris earlier this month they did little to end their dispute with Washington over the export of sophisticated nuclear technology.

In a joint statement, they said France and West Germany would continue to provide developing states with nuclear technology for peaceful economic purposes. They agreed on the need to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, but they gave no hint of any possible reversal of their decisions to provide nuclear fuel re-processing plants to Brazil and Pakistan.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told a press conference recently that the U.S. was "hoping to find a way to obviate the construction of the two plants" and had asked that nothing be done until alternatives could be discussed.

Vice President Walter Mondale spoke with West German and French leaders on the subject during his recent tour of West European capitals, but he declined to give details of the talks.

American and Brazilian officials met in both countries at the end of last month. The State Department said the discussions had been helpful and friendly and further meetings were planned.

The Carter administration is planning further talks with West Germany on the nuclear deal with Brazil.

Western officials are deeply worried that at least 20 nations might soon possess the technology to develop nuclear explosives.

They believe the world is at a watershed in nuclear development. Those who possess a nuclear reactor have already taken the first step towards nuclear weapon capability, they argue.

At present, only the five nuclear weapons powers — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — possess plants capable of processing the plutonium needed for weapons. But other countries are considering whether to order such plants.

Current nuclear programmes will accumulate more than one million kgs. of plutonium within the next 10 years, the officials estimated. The atom bomb which the U.S. dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945 was the equivalent of not more than 10 kgs.

This is how the issue is seen by Reuters correspondents in the capitals concerned in the West Germany-Brazil and France-Pakistan deals.

Paris: France again December to halt first ports of re-processing, but a presidential sell such a plant would still go ahead.

"Signed contracts re France will continue to provide nuclear power which have no facilities processing plutonium, seas countries. Among sent customers are South Africa.

Bonn: West Germany the addition of guards to commercial agreement. But if it will not be the of its agreement in Brazil with re-proces uranium-enrichment p

If it withdraws, it regarded by develop tries as an unreliable If it does not, it will displeasure of the U.S. sent ally and stem or deal.

However, an econ nistry spokesman said "If the United States zil mutually agree of anges (to the West Brazilian transaction German will not obje

Rio de Janeiro: Bra ernment officials have hope Bonn will star nuclear agreement. I however, said that I ght be willing to sig tes additional to mi has already agreed United Nations Int Atomic Energy Agen in Vienna.

The country consid a right to full nucle logy, but Brazil has ed that it will not nuclear weapons.

Islamabad: Pakist Minister Zulfiqar A has given frequen that Pakistan will nuclear bomb assen each re-processing p used exclusively for tary purposes.

Mr. Bhutto main Pakistan needs the ing plant as part of scale plan to devel power over the max cades to make up for try's lack of oil and

Pakistan has om power station, built with Canadian assist Canada last Decemb ded the supply of u rods for the power; cause Pakistan refus up the re-processing France.

The U.S. has war tan that it risks a c of American econ itary aid if it goes the French deal.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The three Jordanian dailies Thursday commented each on a different subject. While one took up the interests of the big powers in the region, another daily discussed the nuclear cooperation between Tel Aviv and Pretoria and the third commented on the importance of Mr. Cyrus Vance's visit to the region.

AL RA'I, under the heading "The constants of politics and the only truth," says that the present concern of the big powers in a peace settlement for the region, stems not from our own interests or demands, but from theirs in the area. Those who have interests here are those who are working actively to achieve a peaceful settlement, the paper says. And like they had worked or encouraged in the past the process of war, to confirm or protect their interests, they now play the opposite role for the same purpose, thus confirming that the only constant fact which does not change resides in their having interests in the region.

On these facts we should base our relations with the big powers. They should feel that they have to pay for these current interests as well as for past ones which had pushed them to create the state of Israel. They should make a choice of payment: Either to stand for their interests in the Arab World or for those "interests" represented by Israel, the paper concludes.

AL DUSTOUR, under the heading "The evil pact between Pretoria and Tel Aviv," says that the nuclear cooperation existing between the two countries is at present the subject of comments and warnings in the U.S. press, not out of fear, or compassion for the Arabs or the Africans, but to avoid an embarrassment similar to that

of Angola. In addition, this cooperation represents a danger for peace for the Arabs and the Africans. It is astonishing, the paper says, that while all this is going on, not a single Arab or African action to counter or protest against it has been effected. A joint Afro-Arab action should be launched to oppose such a sinister cooperation and to nip it utterly in the bud. The Arabs and Africans should develop African resistance movements against the Pretoria regime to deprive it of peace and finally to crush it. The defeat of that regime, the paper says, is important if peace is to be achieved in Africa and even in the Middle East. AL SHA'B considers Mr. Vance's visit to the Middle East as important, in particular since its results will determine the future U.S. Middle Eastern policy, which could force Israel to conform to the peace consensus reached at by the international community. We should place, in front of Mr. Vance, the simple fact that the conflict's origin resides in the Israeli occupation and Israel's refusal to withdraw and to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians; the crux of the problem. The only obstacles to peace and for the reconvening of the Geneva peace conference are Israeli ones, the paper adds. The U.S., with its means of pressure on Israel, can bring it to accept peace and can do a lot to remove Israeli objections to the convening of the Geneva conference. A relaxation on this point from the part of the U.S. can bring the region to the brink of war and endanger foreign interests in the area, with American ones in the forefront, the paper concludes.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:	18:45 Gunsmoke
10:00 Quran	20:00 News in Arabic
10:15 Cartoons	Channel 3:
10:30 Arabic series	19:30 Religious programme
11:00 Three stooges	20:30 Arabic series
11:30 Religious programme	21:20 Reportage
12:30 Cultural programme	Channel 6:
13:00 Arabic series	19:30 News in Hebrew
14:30 Soccer match	19:45 Varieties
16:00 The Waltons	20:30 Cilla's comedy
16:50 Arabic series	21:10 The angels
17:50 Cultural programme	22:00 News in English
18:00 Arabic series	22:15 Kojak

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)	14:10 Radio magazine
7:00 Morning melodies	14:30 Good vibrations
7:30 News	15:00 Concert hour
7:40 News reports	16:00 Old favourites
8:00 Sign off	16:30 Easy listening
10:00 Listeners choice	17:00 Jordan weekly
11:00 My kind of music	17:30 Pop session
11:30 Catch the words	18:00 News summary
11:45 Arab scientists	18:05 15 weekly
12:00 Pop session	18:15 Music
13:00 News summary	18:30 Varieties
13:05 Pop session	18:00 News
14:00 News	19:10 Music

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Nassar (22791)
Amman:	Shahateet (21699)
H. Iskandar Armanos (38680)	Irbid:
George Sayegh (21379)	Nabulsi
Irbid:	Jerusalem
Mazhar Halabi	Zarga:
Akram Momani	Matalqa
Zarga:	Shaab
Mahmoud Mebyadeen	Taxis:
Pharmacies:	University (61001)
Amman:	Nabda (63003)
Fattaleh (37140)	Khayam (41541)
Shadi (25655)	Hammra (44833)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	Departures:
7:55 Cairo (EA)	8:00 Beirut
10:30 Beirut	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:15 Damascus, Aleppo (SAA)	8:45 Cairo (EA)
13:00 Bucharest (Tarom)	10:10 Athens, Amsterdam (KLM)
16:00 Kuwait (KAC)	10:30 Cairo
16:20 Aqaba	12:00 Damascus (SAA)
16:20 Jeddah, Medina, Tref (SDD)	12:30 Aqaba
17:00 Cairo	16:45 Kuwait (KAC)
17:05 Jeddah, Medina, Ta-buk (SDD)	18:10 Tabuk, Medina, Jeddah (SDD)
17:15 Paris, Rome	19:30 Dubai, Karachi
18:10 Madrid, Athens	20:00 Kuwait
19:40 Beirut (MEA)	20:30 Tehran
21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)	22:55 Doha, Muscat
00:30 Rome (Alitalia)	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)

BBC RADIO

GMT	14:30 My Kind of Music
05:00 World News; 24 hours	15:00 Radio Newsreel
05:30 Sarah Ward	15:15 Outlook
05:45 The World Today	16:00 News; Commentary
06:00 News; Press Review	16:15 Science in Action
06:30 My Kind of Music	16:45 The World Today
07:00 News; 24 hours	17:00 News
07:30 Sarah Ward	17:09 Music Now
07:45 Merchant Navy Programme	17:30 Book Choice
08:00 News; Reflections	17:45 Sports Round-up
08:15 Music for Wind Instruments	18:00 News
08:30 Jazz Club	18:15 Radio Newsreel
09:00 News; Press Review	18:30 What's News?
09:15 The World Today	19:00 Outlook: News Summary
09:30 Financial News	19:42 Stock Market
09:45 Jane Eyre	19:45 Strike up the Band
10:15 Merchant Navy	20:00 News; 24 hours
10:30 Folk and Country	20:30 Migraine
11:00 News	21:00 World Radio Club
11:15 Face of England	21:15 Sarah Ward Requests
11:30 Discovery	21:45 Scotland 77
12:00 Radio Newsreel	22:00 News; The World Today
12:15 Composer and Interpreter	22:25 Financial News
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:45 Sports Radio-up
13:00 News; 24 hours	23:00 World News; Commentary
13:30 New Ideas	23:15 From the Weeklies
13:40 Ulster This Week	23:30 Take it or Leave it

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:00 Special English Feature: The Earth, News Summary USA (SDD) News Roundup: Actualities, Opinions, News Summary (SDD) VOA Magazine, News, Science, Letters. Special English Music (Jazz) VOA World News news voices news reports ground features dia comments analyses.
03:00	The Breakfast Show: to 03:00, 04:00, 05:00, and 06:00 GMT: News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary. (03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT: An informal presentation of popular music and feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest.
17:00	News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses, News Summary.
17:30	Forum
21:30	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 7811
Civil defence rescue	" 2489
Fire headquarters	" 2269
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 3688
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 3711
Police headquarters	" 3914
Najfeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 2111

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 4122
British Council	" 3616
French Cultural Centre	" 3708
Goethe Institute	" 4196
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 4238
Amman Municipal Library	" 3611

مركزنا هو التمهيد

Prominent Arab-American states

Arab viewpoint gains ground in more open-minded U.S.

By Lina Gross... special to the Jordan Times... the weight of the Arab voice in U.S. politics is getting stronger...

all over the United States come to discuss Arab policy, as well as timely political topics. Often foreign speakers are invited to address the convention.

that they "represented a tremendous surge by Americans of Arab heritage. Furthermore, the results indicated that the American public is becoming more sophisticated concerning misrepresentations of stereotypes that the media has offered regarding Arabs in general.

and congressmen and women of Arab ancestry, and deals with current social, economic and political issues in the Arab world. In conclusion, Mr. Saah said that Arab-Americans are mainly concerned about American interests, which happen to parallel those related to justice in the Middle East.



James Abourezk: Posing hard.

Saah, who emigrated to Ramallah 25 years ago in Amman last week to officiate condolences on the death of Queen Alya...

Mr. Saah emphasized that the association has started to influence American politics in a limited way, since -- for the first time in history -- the association was invited to the White House in 1975 for the reassessment of Middle East policy.



Mary Rose Oakar: Women's representative members to continue its support of these seven and to work to help others of us to ensure our proportionate representation in Congress.

There are six representatives, including one woman, Mary Rose Oakar, and one senator, the popular James Abourezk of South Dakota. In addition, several state legislators and mayors represent Arab-American interests.



Abraham Kazen: Congress old timer.

Just seven years ago only one representative -- Abraham Kazen -- put forth Arab-American views in Congress. NAAA Director Michael Saba is quoted as saying about the 1976 congressional elections

Just recently, Mr. Saah said, when Paul Dixon, a Federal Trade Commissioner, insulted Ralph Nader, a prominent Arab-American consumer advocate, calling him a "dirty Arab", the association forced Mr. Dixon to apologise not only to Ralph Nader but also to the NAAA by highlighting the case in Congress and before government officials.

Mr. Saah explained that the NAAA came to life as an umbrella group for the 2,500 independent charitable, religious, academic and cultural organisations representing the three million Arabs in the United States.

Yet at the same time, Mr. Saah stressed that the organization constantly tries to strengthen and maintain the traditional ties of friendship between the people of the United States and the Arabs.

Mr. Saah said that the organization issues a monthly publication The Voice, which expresses the views of the Arab-American community and promotes Arab culture, which contributed so richly to world civilisation.

The Voice also covers the activities of government officials



His Majesty King Hussein receives Gaza Mayor Haj Rashad Al Shawwa at the Royal Court Thursday. The mayor arrived at the head of a delegation from the Gaza Strip here to offer its condolences on the death of Queen Alya. (JNA photo).

Highlands development programme drawn up

AMMAN (JNA). — The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the relevant departments, has prepared a plan for the development of the highlands at a cost of JD 40 million. It will be submitted to the World Food Programme for approval and execution.

Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a said Thursday the plan, the first of its kind in Jordan, will cover some 200,000 dunums of highlands in selected areas where average rainfall exceeds 250 mms.

He said his ministry will carry out, or help farmers, on soil conservation, improvement of irrigation systems and development of agricultural production in the areas covered by the plan, which is expected to take five years to complete.

The Jordanian Government, he added, will participate with 25-30 per cent of the total cost, and the World Food Programme with the remainder.

GAZA DELEGATION OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO KING HUSSEIN

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday afternoon received at the Royal Court condolences on the death of the late Queen Alya from the people of the occupied Gaza Strip. The condolences were conveyed by Mayor of Gaza Haj Rashad Al Shawwa, accompanied by an 80-member delegation representing mayors, chambers of commerce, judges, religious dignitaries, lawyers, doctors, trade unionists and farmers in the Gaza Strip.

The King thanked the people of Gaza for their kind sentiments.

Street named after late Queen Alya

AMMAN (JNA). — The Amman Municipality Thursday decided to name the street stretching from the Interior Ministry Circle up to the crossroads at Al Hussein Youth City after Her Majesty the late Queen Alya.

It also decided to name three other streets in the capital after the others killed with Queen Alya: Dr. Mohammad Al Bashir, Badreddin Zaza and Mohammad Alkhas.

Security head presides over police meet

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director of Public Security, Maj. Gen. Ghazi Arabiyat, Thursday presided over a meeting of high-ranking officers at his department. Reviewing his recent inspection tour of police stations all over the country, he urged his officers to deal with people in a modern spirit "that conforms with the values and traditions of our society, and the requirements of social relations that must exist between a policeman and an ordinary citizen."

Flexibility in dealing with people will serve their interests and at the same time effectively ensures law and order, Maj. Gen. Arabiyat stressed. He said his department had taken the necessary steps to put more emphasis on the humanitarian aspects of the policeman's mission through training and refreshes courses and lectures by public secretary experts.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

Table with 2 columns: Currency and Rate. Includes Saudi riyal, Lebanese pound, Syrian pound, Iraqi dinar, Kuwaiti dinar, Egyptian pound, Libyan dinar, UAE dirham, Italian lira, and Saudi riyal.

Arab media meet calls for code of ethics, onslaught against Zionism

CAIRO Feb. 17 (JNA). — The Permanent Committee on Arab Media today recommended that the next conference of Arab ministers of information be held in Tunis in August to adopt a code of ethics in the information field.

The committee decided to arrange a meeting of Arab legal information experts to prepare a draft of the code to be approved by the conference. The permanent committee ended its week-long meeting here today by passing a number of recommendations.

It called for closer cooperation with non-aligned countries by establishing links between Arab information training centres and their counterparts in the non-aligned world.

The committee further recommended that the media should concentrate on broadcasting news and television items on the struggle of the Palestinian people, produce radio and television items on the subject and produce a film about the Palestinian upheaval in the occupied territories, broadcast a unified radio programme on March 30, the Day of the Earth, and publish press material and pamphlets on the subject.

The committee called for contacts to be made with Rome and other European countries in an effort to convene a seminar on Archbishop Capucci to expose Israel's violations and its ill treatment of Arabs in the occupied territories.

It also called for the convening of seminars in various European cities, such as London, for the same purpose and, stressed the need for tightening information cooperation between Arab and African countries and for quickly holding the second seminar of Arab and African news agencies in Tripoli, Libya.

It called for a continuation of the study on the possibility of establishing an Arab research centre to expose Zionism. In all, the committee passed 48 recommendations, which aim to promote and support Arab information activity and make 1977 a year of information activity in Latin America to explain the Palestinian question.

NATIONAL NOTES

- * AMMAN. — The Department of Social Affairs and the U.S. organisation CARE Thursday agreed to install a waterpipe network, 1,800 metres in length to supply a number of schools in the Mafraq District with water.
* AMMAN. — The Municipal and Rural Credit Fund Thursday approved a JD 40,000 loan to the Salt municipality and JD 7,000 to the Deir Yussuf municipality for the completion of school is, and JD 10,000 to the Hosa municipal council for the purchase of two cesspool drainage-vehicles.
* AMMAN. — Sources at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce have stated that the number of registered and operational companies in Jordan at the end of last year reached 6,379 with a total capital of JD 265 million. The sources said that during the last quarter of 1976 licences were issued for 1,271 companies with a total capital exceeding JD 62 million.
* AMMAN. — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday delegated Minister of Waqf Kamel Al Sharif to open the new Prince Hassan Mosque at Shmeisani.

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE OFFICE SALIBA AND RIZK SHUKRI RIZK AMMAN, KING Faisal STREET P.O. Box 6723, Tel. 39205 - 36520 - Telex: 1443

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Technology transfer: Hidden traps for unsuspecting Third World

The transfer of modern technology to developing countries is a major plank of the proposed new international economic order. But it would be unwise to adopt technologies in a blind fashion, says a leading Kenyan economist. Modern methods can make high demands on a country's capital and energy resources. Unemployment and poverty can get worse and the environment can be polluted.

NAIROBI (Gemini) — They are omnipresent — although not omnipotent — and easily recognisable. Senior executives from multinational corporations, dressed in dark, impersonal, protocol suits, carrying lawyer's briefcases, speaking with quiet, smooth voices and followed by a retinue of assistants and secretaries. They flit from country to country "transferring technology". Discussions begin immediately after they arrive in a developing country, usually with senior government officials or the minister of planning himself. The benefits of the "package" are discussed, an attractive loan, jobs for the unemployed, rapid industrial growth, saving of foreign exchange by import substitution, expanding exports and the "wise utilisation of idle natural resources." Cables whizz back and forth. Cocktail parties are hosted. A rustle of papers, a flourish of the pen, flash-bulbs pop... and another agreement is signed. A triumphant photograph of the corporation executive shaking hands with the minister of planning appears in the next day's newspaper. And so another technology is transferred.

in. Besides, the conditions in the agreement specify that all the machinery and the spare parts must be bought from one particular corporation, naturally from the country which supplies the loan.

Patents, licenses, price fixation, international quotas add to the frustrations and soon the situation so aptly described in Walter Hamilton's book "Cartels, Patents and Politics" develops and "the relationship of the licence falls into a kind of feudal formula of the lord and the vassal."

Unfortunately, the foregoing fictionalised story may not end there. A report by an expert group on technology from the United States Environment Programme (UNEP) takes up the story and reviews the impact of technology on the environment and development. Modern technology, the report points out, makes exorbitant demands on capital and energy resources. In developing countries, the locking up of scarce capital in capital-intensive automated plants may prevent employment growing as fast as the population. The result is that the unemployment situation and its offspring, poverty, become worse.

At the same time, with the days of cheap oil over, the cost of keeping the wheels of modern energy-intensive industry turning is always increasing. Modern industries may also have destructive social effects. "Literate entrepreneurs" replace village elders and their age-old wisdom. Alien lifestyles creep in.

Vast numbers of rural folk are thrown out of work be-

cause traditional occupations are undermined. They flock to the cities where modern industries are usually located. Hence, the creation and growth of slums.

All these tendencies may be part of the technology transfer package — which, in most developing countries, sustains a dual society with urban islands of obvious affluence amidst vast seas of rural poverty.

There may also be grave environmental effects. Concentrating in cities, modern industries may produce pollution levels as high as in developed countries, particularly because environmental lobbies are weaker or non-existent. Above all the poor of developing countries have poorer health, and therefore suffer much more from environmental damage.

But it would be a disaster to conclude that all modern technologies are unsuitable for the developing countries. In fact, some technologies may actually quicken development and hasten the new international economic order.

In developed nations, the report says, the prolific advances of modern technology have led to spectacular increases in affluence, but this affluence has not necessarily resulted in an environment suited to man's well-being.

With the development of modern technology, man's welfare has often been threatened by increasing levels of pollution — pollution of the air that he breathes, the water he drinks, the food he eats, the tranquillity that he needs (instead of "the decibel inferno") and the beauty of the nature that he enjoys.

At the same time, almost every developed country has its own poor, either racial minorities, immigrant workers or inhabitants of a backward region. The disparities between the rich and the poor in these countries may be accentuated by modern technology, which tends to cater for the privileged.

The underprivileged "are left behind to observe vicariously on television how the lucky three-quarters live," says Barbara Ward, a world authority on the environment.

Large scale industries — based on mass production — depend on vast supplies of raw materials. These hungry industries feed daily on millions of tons of non-renewable natural resources. But for how long will the supply continue? Most raw materials come from the developing countries.

The industries are, therefore, vulnerable to drastic changes in international trade. Because in size, they cannot easily adjust to sudden or prolonged cessation in raw materials or energy supplies.

Technological research also affects Third World economies through research into synthetic substitutes. About \$1,000 million is spent annually by industrialised nations on research into plastics, synthetic rubber and fibres so that they can depend less on lute, cotton, silk and other Third World products. This research has made a significant contribution to the drop in demand and the prices of primary products on the world markets.

Every act of technology has some impact on the environment. There is also the growing threat to the rich and poor alike from such "outer limit" risks as possible climatic changes, damage to the ozone layer, contamination of the food chain, pollution of the oceans or over-exploitation of living resources.

The gravity of the risks vary from relatively trivial ones like car accidents to potentially catastrophic ones such as all-out nuclear warfare, or the destruction of the life-sustaining contents of the biosphere such as air, water and soil.

Some of these risks may be cumulative like the build-up of nuclear wastes — or visibly active pollutants in the atmosphere such as smoke, or they may be hidden risks like "ge-

netic engineering" accidents.

Modern technology, relentlessly pursues the so-called economies of mass-production and automation. Only a few are required to possess a high degree of intellectual capacity or manual skills, while the barest minimum of intelligence and dexterity is expected from the vast majority of the work force.

A situation follows where machines may play a major part in the production line, alienating men from each other and from their work. "No wonder half the hospital beds in Europe and North America are occupied by mental patients," writes Erick Dammann, a Norwegian economist in his book "Future in our Hands."

Nations and groups, which control modern technology, wield power of a magnitude unparalleled in human history — power which has sometimes been used against the majority for questionable ends. There is also the brain drain from the Third World to the developed nations with the concentration of science and technology in the latter.

"Technology does — and should — have an impact on the environment, but we must consider what kinds of impact," says Philip Ndegwa, a Kenyan economist, who is Director of

UNEP's Division of Economic and Social Affairs. Technologies which have positive effects on the environment include those curbing soil erosion or improving the quality of water.

He says: "Technology is man's principal instrument for achieving his economic and social aims. The achievement of the new international economic order depends on the creation of such technologies in both industrialised and developing countries. There is tremendous scope for technologically-advanced developing countries such as India, China and Brazil to pool their resources and develop appropriate technologies."

UNEP does not reject the transfer of technology from industrialised to developing countries. Mr. Ndegwa warns: "We do not in any way intend to hamper progress, but it would be unwise to adopt technologies in a blind fashion."

"The technologies that are transferred must be subject to two standards. They must be environmentally-sound and appropriate for the country concerned. The selection and development of such technologies are of paramount importance. This is what UNEP is concerned with."



Alien lifestyles creep in

Macau stands on Peking-Lisbon tightrope

After the Lisbon coup of 1974, Portugal wanted to give Macau back to China. But Peking did not favour that solution, so today Macau is part of China administered by Portugal. It now has an assembly, and the governor has extracted high revenue from the casinos. At the same time he is developing its tourist potential so that the tiny colony is no longer the run-down backwater it had become.

MACAU, (Gemini) — Basking on a black sand beach, playing roulette or boule in one of the five casinos, gossiping over coffee in a pavement cafe, sipping cheap Portuguese wine on the hotel balcony overlooking the harbour. Can you guess the name of this idyllic tourist spot?

The answer is China. For Macau, the 16-square-kilometre enclave of China's southern border, is officially Chinese territory under Portuguese administration.

The new status, which ended 400 years of direct rule from Lisbon, was introduced in February 1976 following a train of events initiated by the fall of the Salazar regime in Portugal.

The socialist-minded soldiers who took steps to end Portugal's empire wanted to return Macau to China, but Peking was unwilling: the absorption of the territory might have eroded confidence in Hong Kong which continues to have financial importance to China. So a new relationship was worked out.

Macau's Governor, Colonel Garcia Leandru, and the 17-member Legislative Assembly walk the tightrope between Peking and Lisbon, while also trying to please the 300,000 Macanese, 98% of them Chinese.

The Assembly has been operating only since August, but has already split into three distinct groups: the conservative, pro-big business party, the Association to Defend the Interests of Macau (ADIM), headed by Assembly Chairman Carlos d'Assumpcao; the four indirectly elected and two appointed Chinese members led by multi-millionaire banker Ho Yin, who reflects official mainland Chinese attitudes (Macau has no direct diplomatic links with Peking); and the remaining two elected and three appointed Portuguese members who have no fixed policies and act as a floating vote and who-

se attitude is crucial to the outcome of motions tabled by the other groups.

Only 200 Chinese voted in the first Assembly election, apparently because of an instinct that they should stay out of a political system which basically concerns foreigners.

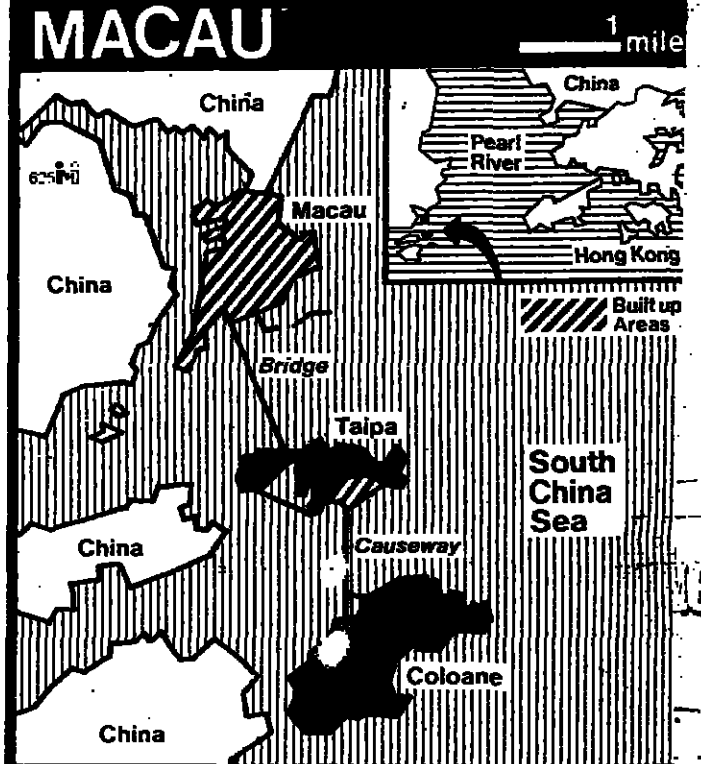
Leandru has had trouble with ADIM because of his tough line in the negotiations with the gambling syndicate which runs the casinos, Sociedade de Turismo e Diversoes de Macau, and whose annual net profits are believed to be in the region of 250 million Hongkong dollars. After five months of talks the syndicate was committed to payments in taxes, rents and investments of about 80 million Hong Kong dollars a year (against only about 9 million dollars previously).

This extra revenue will help Macau fulfil its aim of becoming economically self-sufficient, which is part of the deal struck with Portugal in formulating the new relationship.

A major effort is being put into infrastructure: a new power station on Coloane Island will begin operation this year; two dams on the island will be completed soon, which will improve the inadequate water supply; and a container terminal is being built.

Macau's commerce is controlled by pro-Peking Chinese, and its textile industry — basically a workshop for Hong Kong — by Hong Kong Chinese. Despite the virtual ending of Macau's colonial status, it is trying to develop a closer relationship with Portugal in international trade. Portugal plans to use the territory to promote its own trade with Asia, and Lisbon has promised to help Macau gain ground lost in Portugal's former African colonies.

The 36-year-old governor knows that Macau will continue to be dependent on gambling and tourism for the foreseeable future. Last year over 500,000



Forget the past is the message coming out of Northern Ireland



Violence

DUBLIN, (CSM) — Northern Ireland's peace movement has come up with a plan it hopes will provide a way of escape for teenagers and others caught up in the province's web of terrorism and violence.

An "escape officer" will be appointed for each of the local peace groups the People for Peace is organising. (People for Peace is the name now given to the stop-the-violence movement started last summer by Mairead Corrigan and Mrs. Betty Williams.)

The mission of the escape officer will be to find a way out for those who joined one of Northern Ireland's many, terrorist and paramilitary organisations. These people need to escape from a past forced on them by conditions in the province, a past they should not be blamed for, People for Peace says.

Reflecting a similar approach, two prominent churchmen in the Republic of Ireland have called for forgetting the past as a first step towards finding a solution for Northern Ireland.

The Rev. Edna McDonagh, professor of moral theology at Maynooth near Dublin, said recently that Irishmen must update their political goals and methods by at least 50 years.

The Rev. McDonagh rejected violence as either a legitimate or effective means of bringing about needed changes. Instead, he said, Ireland should adopt the nonviolent means used elsewhere today to fit the Irish situation.

Dr. Cabal Daly, Bishop of Ardagh and Clomacnois, issued an equally strong condemnation of violence in a New Year's message. Like the Rev. McDonagh, Dr. Daly praised the Northern Ireland peace movement.

He said the peace workers' mission and their place in history will have been to promote a climate in which governments and politicians can resume their task — to work out just and acceptable political solutions.

Dr. Daly charged the British government with producing a political vacuum in Northern Ireland and with alienating the public there by crude military tactics.

His charge that Northern Ireland's British rulers are guilty of a lamentable desertion from responsibility brought a sharp rebuke from the London Times.

The point stressed by Dr. Daly, the Rev. McDonagh and by the People for Peace is that political action is needed now in Northern Ireland. All think political advancement is possible, despite persistent violence, if past mistakes are left behind.



Youngsters will have a better future if their parents will forget the past.

tourists visited the territory, all of them via Hong Kong 50 kilometres away, in addition to 2.4 million visitors from the neighbouring British colony and mainland China.

These figures are a record for Macau, and mark an end to a three-year decline in arrivals as a result of the general world economic turn-down.

Most went to gamble — not only at the casinos but on greyhounds at the Candrome and on polo, one of the fastest ball games in the world.

The young governor is putting a lot of emphasis on tourism, and negotiations are underway for two major hotel projects, one each on Taipa and Coloane islands, where future developments are to be concentrated.

New legislation is being framed to control the industry and recently-introduced conservation laws to protect the old Portuguese-style houses and cobbled streets are being applied to preserve the charm of the territory, which capitalises on being so different from the bustle and concrete of Hong Kong.

Relations with the colony are uneasy, with Macau — once the power-house of Western influence in the East — jealous of the colony's success and irritated by its often patronising attitude in some ways, such as the functioning of the

elected Assembly, Macau is ting the pace.

Now there is talk of a rency-issuing central bank even of an airport — a development which would ease territory's dependence on H. Kong.

Last year Leandru closed that talks on the air scheme had started a year fore and that two studies, official and one private, been commissioned to look the feasibility of the project which would be on Taipa.

However, China's approval would have to be obtained such an important undertaking and that is directly linked Hong Kong's own tent plans for a second airport cater for traffic growth.

In turn is wrapped up in F. Kong's future after Brit lease on most of the colic land expires in 1997 — suggestion is that an air should be built across the der in China to serve Hong Kong and Canton.

It looks as though, how ambitious Leandru's plans the tiny territory, he will go to a pace that others have hard to predict. But as highly-placed Portuguese official comment: "Anything's possible here." We could be tomorrow — but don't be misled if we're still around another 400 years."

Happy New Year

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Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH:
♠AQ108
♥73
♦A396
♣1043

WEST: ♠J976
♥AK
♦KQ1087
♣53

EAST: ♠54
♥QJ9654
♦2
♣J952

SOUTH: ♠K32
♥1082
♦4
♣AKQ876

The bidding:
West North East South
1♣ Pass 1♥ 2♣
2♦ Dbie. 2♥ 3♣
3♥ Pass 5♣ Pass Pass

Declarer lead: Ace of ♥

The afternoon at the bridge club had not been a pleasant experience for one of the regulars. Somehow or other this poor soul kept cutting Trump Coup Tommy for his partner, and watched him turn what should have been a large profit into a slight loss. You may recall that Tommy plays like an utter tyro except in one circumstance: when trumps break badly. Then he becomes like Jackie Stewart behind the wheel of a racing car.

The only bright note of the day was when we had the opportunity to study Tommy at work on this hand. Obviously, Tommy was not prepared to play for some small penalty with his holding. When he rebid his club suit at the three-level, his partner felt quite justified in raising him to game.

If you look only at the North-South hands, it would seem that the game is easy—declarer need lose only two hearts. But, looking at the

full deal, it seemed that Tommy and his partner were destined for another minus score. West led the ace and king of hearts. This is the reverse of the normal procedure, and showed that he held ace-king bare. Then he shifted to the king of diamonds.

Tommy won in dummy and led a trump to the king. There was no mistaking the gleam in his eye when West discarded a diamond on this trick. The ace-queen of spades in dummy would provide two entries to take two trump finesses, but then there would be nothing Tommy could do with his heart loser. Yet if he ruffed a heart, he would have no way to take two club finesses.

The way out of this impasse was to play West for the jack of spades. Since he held no clubs and only two hearts. West probably held long spades, so he was a favorite to have the jack.

Accordingly, Tommy led a spade to the ten and played the ten of clubs from dummy. East covered with the jack. Tommy won the queen, re-entered dummy with the queen of spades and finessed for East's nine of clubs. He then ran his trumps.

When Tommy led his last trump, dummy was down to the ace-eight of spades and jack of diamonds. West held the jack-nine of spades and queen of diamonds, but he had to discard in front of dummy. If he sluffed the queen of diamonds, dummy would shed a spade; if he let go a spade, dummy would part with the diamond. Either way, the table would take the last two tricks.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



The bald eagle looks on warily towards the world of unseeing humans.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 18, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Dramatic changes are likely to occur so make sure you go along with them for best results. You would be wise to use the utmost tact in dealing with others at this time.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle private affairs carefully and do not rely on others so much since they could be under pressure you know nothing about.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Quietly do what will change the attitude of friends so there is more harmony between you. Don't be forceful with anyone.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Handle routine duties tactfully and get excellent results. Not a good day to engage in civic affairs.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Don't give up on something you feel is important today because of delays, but hold firm. Think constructively.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Your intuition is not working accurately today, so don't follow it. Wait until evening before making any important decisions.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't get into any arguments with associates today or there could unpleasant consequences. Relax at home tonight.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make sure you complete your work today instead of putting it off for another day. The evening can be a happy one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Keep calm if a troublesome situation flares up at home and it will soon blow over. Use care in motion today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Know what your fundamental aims are and how to gain them speedily. A co-worker may be irate but don't become involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure you obey traffic regulations and avoid the possibility of accidents today. Make long-range plans for the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your finances well and know where to put in economy measure wisely. Follow the advice of a trusted adviser.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Anything of a personal nature could have delays, so be patient and good results will follow. Strive for happiness.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Are you suggesting...?

VAIST

ICMEN

KABETS

LORMAN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: JUST "O O O O O O O O O O" IT

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: GAILY CHOKE SATIRE QUORUM
Yesterday's Answer: What Shakespeare's village might have been—A "HAMLET"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

22. South wind
23. Smear
24. Catnip
25. Kangaroo bear
26. Diverse
27. Black
28. Twibill
29. Territory
30. Bliddy
31. Vivacity
32. Milk sugar
33. Otherwise
34. Garden flowers

46. Roll of film
47. Long time

DOWN

1. Enterprise
2. Aunt in Madrid
3. Piffers
4. Ration
5. Tended a garden
6. As written: music
7. Claw
8. Ooze
9. Imitated
10. Cottonwood
11. Laborer
12. Biblical giant
13. Air
14. Shawm
15. Medical fluids
16. Wager
17. Loathes
18. Alluvial deposit
19. English princess
20. More trustworthy
21. Expatriate
22. Stanza
23. Charter
24. Legal proceedings
25. Fish
26. Three: prefix

GRAFFITI

YOU CAN LEAD A HORSE TO WATER BUT A PENCIL MUST BE LEAD

...HALLO!
IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE A SPACE FOR AN AD IN THE JORDAN TIMES...

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

GUNSMOKE:
THE SHARE CROPPERS
Having bought the deputy Marshal's horse without knowing it, a young musician gets help from the Marshal who employs him at ranch.

CILLA'S COMEDY SIX:
DICTATION SPEED
Working as a secretary, Sally succeeds in trapping her boss into marriage.

KOJAK:
THE GODSON
Kojak is obliged to go after one of his proteges who gets killed in the ensuing fight.

THE WALTONS:
THE BICYCLE
John-Boy Walton plays "Cyrano" to the local blacksmith, when the stoic mountain man decides to take a bride.

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

GERMANY
Rudi Facke
"Well, it seems to me that you've had another acupuncture treatment."

PEANUTS

LET'S GIVE HIM A BIG HAND FOLKS.
OUR HERO THE FAMOUS HELICOPTER PILOT!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP

I'VE ASKED OUR HERO TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE THRILLING RESCUE...
OUR PILOT: THE FLOOR IS YOURS

THE BETTER HALF

By Barnes

"This is the fourth bedroom window I've replaced this year... has your husband had to buy four alarm clocks, too?"

THE FLINTSTONES

IT TOOK ALMOST TWO WEEKS—WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?
BEAUTIFUL!
LET ME BE THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE YOU
SECOND—YOU'RE THE FIRST TO CONGRATULATE HER!

MUTT AND JEFF

TELL MUTT, BILL HOLMAN CALLED!
WHO?
BILL HOLMAN! WRITE IT DOWN! B-I-L-L!
HOW DO YOU MAKE A B?
HOW DO I WHAT? CAN'T YOU WRITE?
OH, SURE! I CAN WRITE!
WELL, WRITE DOWN MY NAME! CAPITAL H-O-L--
HOW DO YOU SPELL CAPITAL?
CLICK!

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE
Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41361 ext. 5.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle, Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luwelbeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30846. Jabal Al Hussain, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Abhiyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

360 STEAKHOUSE

Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luwelbeh. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

It's useless for U.S. to aim at military superiority since USSR can match any new American weapon

Says Soviet defence minister

MOSCOW Feb. 17 (Agencies) — Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov today urged the United States not to try to achieve military superiority, because Moscow could swiftly match any new American weapons.

Writing in the theoretical journal *Kommunist*, Marshal Ustinov said that militarist circles in the United States had "not yet given up hope of achieving military superiority over the USSR by creating newer and newer weapons of mass annihilation."

New U.S. laser weapon eventually "may alter world power balance"

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (R). — The United States is on the verge of major weapons developments that could eventually alter the world balance of power, the Defence Department said yesterday.

Dr. George Hellmeier, Director of the Pentagon's Advanced Research Projects Agency, forecast development over the next 15 years of high energy laser death-ray weapons orbiting in space and systems for attacking as well as detecting missile submarines.

"We are on the verge of major innovations that could dramatically influence our security," Dr. Hellmeier said in a speech prepared for delivery to an electronics industry conference in Philadelphia. "There is a new capability offered that could dramatically shift the balance of power."

A dispute over how to classify the American low-flying Cruise missile and the Soviet "Backfire" bomber has been one of the main causes of stalemate in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

The marshal's article stressed that the Soviet Union did not want to take part in a race to develop new arms.

The defence minister also denied that the Soviet Union was trying to gain superiority over the United States by building up its force levels.

"For several years neither the Soviet Union nor other Warsaw Treaty members states have increased their armed forces. Their numerical strength remains unchanged," he said.

But NATO states were building up their forces, the marshal said, which compelled the Soviet Union to maintain its military strength at a sufficient level to deter an attack.

Last night North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), Commander-in-Chief Gen. Alexander Haig said Western defence forces should avoid letting the military balance between the two sides be broken

and said the U.S. was ready to reinforce its defence efforts "if the others do the same".

Watergate's Hunt released on parole

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AFP). — Mr. Howard Hunt, the former White House security consultant convicted of conspiracy in the Watergate break-in in June 1972, was released from prison on parole today, his lawyer announced.

But he immediately faces a \$2-million civil action brought by four of the Watergate burglars he recruited who alleged that he did not fully explain the nature of the operation they were to carry out.

Mr. Hunt, a thriller writer and former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent, was sentenced to 30 months-to-eight years imprisonment in January 1973 after pleading guilty to six counts including conspiring to break into the Democratic Party headquarters, listening to telephone conversations by Democratic officials and bribing the party's officers.

Lawyer William Snyder said the \$10,000 in fines imposed on Mr. Hunt had been paid into the court today and since he had served the minimum of his sentence he could be released on parole.

The suit has been brought against him by Mr. Frank Sturgis, Mr. Bernard Barker, Mr. Eugenio Martinez and Mr. Virgilio Gonzalez, all of whom were arrested on the Watergate premises and sentenced to prison terms of at least a year each.

The only one of the original seven arrested in connection with the burglary is Mr. Gordon Liddy, a former adviser to the Republican Party's re-election committee for former President Richard Nixon.

Mr. Liddy received a sentence of six years and eight months to 20 years.

Gandhi and election foe Narain candidates in same constituency

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17 (AFP). — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her bitter political foe Raj Narain today registered their nominations for next month's general election in Mrs. Gandhi's constituency of Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

Voters returned the prime minister with a majority of more than 100,000 in the last general election in 1971.

Her son Mr. Sanjay Gandhi also filed nomination papers today at nearby Amethi, where as a ruling Congress Party candidate he will stand for parliament for the first time.

Mr. Narain, campaigning this time for the opposition Janata Party, stood against Mrs. Gandhi in 1971 and later filed a suit against her in the Allahabad High Court for alleged election irregularities.

In June 1975 the court ruled her election invalid, but soon afterwards Mrs. Gandhi declared a state of emergency and the Supreme Court later reversed the ruling against her.

Mr. Narain was detained under the emergency regulations until earlier this month. Addressing her first election meeting in her constituency today, Mrs. Gandhi asked for cooperation in continuing the "good work carried out under the emergency" and consolidating the atmosphere of change in India.

The prime minister said much had been achieved under the emergency and India could take its place in the forefront of developing nations.

Mr. Morarji Desai, leader of the Janata Party and a former deputy prime minister, told a crowd in his home state of Gujarat, Northwest India, that the party -- formed just over a year ago -- had laid a strong foundation for an alternative to the Congress Party which has ruled India since independence in 1947.

He urged supporters to avoid violence during the campaign.

China indicates approval of U.S.-Cuban rapprochement as Carter lays down conditions

PEKING, Feb. 17 (AFP). — China today implicitly gave a nod of approval to the improved relations which seem to be in line between the United States and Cuba.

In a brief dispatch, the new China News Agency CNCNA reported the visit to Cuba from Feb. 10 to 15 of Congressman Jonathan Bingham, Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' International Trade and Commerce Subcommittee.

The official Chinese agency never mentions such events if Peking disapproves of them, it was pointed out in diplomatic circles here, and it was the first that the subject of relations between Washington and Havana had been reported.

The agency quoted reports as saying Mr. Bingham had discussed with Cuban leader Fidel Castro bilateral problems concerning territorial waters, fishing rights, the American commercial blockade against Cuba, the U.S. ban on travelling to

Cuba and the renewal of agreement between the U.S. and Cuba on preventing hijacking. CNCNA also quoted American Secretary of State Cyrus Vance as telling newsmen recently, "I don't want to set any preconditions on talks with Cuba."

CNCNA said the Cuban premier had declared he considered that normalisation of relations between Washington and Havana was "possible".

It was noted in Peking's diplomatic circles that better relations between the U.S. and Cuba would probably, in China's view, help up to a point to counter-balance the Soviet influence in Cuba.

U.S. President Carter said yesterday that he had received information "from indirect sources" indicating that Cuba had decided to withdraw its troops from Angola, where they have been stationed since the autumn of 1975.

The withdrawal of the 12,000 to 13,000 Cuban troops remaining in Angola would mark an important milestone in the evolution of relations between Cuba and the United States.

Unlike former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the Democratic administration has given up the idea of the departure of the Cubans from Angola a preliminary condition for opening of a dialogue with Havana.

Mr. Carter did not identify the "indirect sources" from which he had learned the Cubans would withdraw their troops, but some observers think the message was brought to him by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, now on an official visit to the United States.

In any case, Mr. Lopez Portillo said he was ready to act as an intermediary between Cuba and the United States.

While welcoming such a withdrawal, Mr. Carter mentioned other conditions to normalisation. He said Cuba would have to stop executing "an aggravating influence" in the Western hemisphere. This statement seemed particularly aimed at Cuban support for Puerto Rican nationalists.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Japan's January trade figures record expected seasonal slump

TOKYO Feb. 17 (R). Japan's overall balance of payments slumped to a \$850 million deficit in January but Finance Ministry officials said today the downturn had been expected because of seasonal factors.

Preliminary figures showed a visible trade deficit of \$80 million compared to a record surplus in December of \$-1.65 billion. The deficit on invisible earnings such as freight and tourism, increased by \$74 million to \$590 million.

However, the long-term capital balance improved from a December deficit of \$296 million to a \$20 million surplus, the first in five months, as a result of less domestic funds going abroad and increased foreign investment in Japanese securities.

Exports for January at \$4.66 billion were \$2.5 billion down on December but were 31 per cent up on the figure for January last year, reflecting increased sales of ships and stepped-up exports to the Middle East and Latin America.

Ministry officials said the visible trade deficit, the first since January last year, reflected the usual seasonal drop in exports following a surge in December as accounts were settled for the end of the year.

But they noted that this January's \$80 million trade deficit was well down from the \$354 million deficit recorded for the same time last year.

Finance Ministry sources said this partly reflected inclusion in the December figures rather than January of large quantities of crude oil and tobacco imports which in December were still on their way to Japan.

Banking sources estimated that these shipments at about \$400 million, and said their inclusion in the December figures may have been to keep Japan's trade surplus for last year below the psychologically-important \$10-billion mark. The 1976 surplus was \$9.93 billion.

But the Finance Ministry said the timing was in accordance with International Monetary Fund rules for calculating imports.

Joint Yemeni team appeals to Kuwait for help in oil price snags

CUWAIT, Feb. 17 (R). — A joint Yemeni delegation arrived here last night from Saudi Arabia for talks on North and South Yemen's oil problems.

The team is headed by North Yemeni Minister of State Ahmad Abu Saeed and South Yemeni Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Wall.

In a press statement on arrival, Mr. Abu Saeed said the delegation was carrying messages to Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah from President Ibrahim Al Hani of North Yemen and Saleh Robaye' Ali of South Yemen.

He added that the team would discuss with the Kuwaiti Oil Minister Abdul Muteleb Al Kazimi "the possibility of continuing to help the two Yemens by providing them with oil facilities extended by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC)."

The Yemeni delegation will also hold talks with Kuwaiti Finance Minister Abdul Rahman Al Aqil on cooperation between the countries, officials said.

The two ministers started a Gulf tour in Saudi Arabia two days ago to explain their countries' difficulties resulting from higher oil prices.

Euro-Communism on the rise 3 Communist parliamentarians make it to defence committee of Western European Union

BRUSSELS, Feb. 17 (AFP). — Communist members of parliament have been appointed for the first time this week to the Armaments Committee of the seven-nation Western European Union (WEU) assembly.

The nomination Tuesday of Italian deputies Salvatori Corallo and Ugo Pecchioli, and of French Senator Serge Bouchiny, to the defence group is seen by many observers here as an inevitable consequence of the rise of Euro-Communism.

But the Communists' presence has already provoked a strong reaction from the United States.

In a diplomatic note recently received at WEU headquarters, Washington said that if any Communist members of the committee formed part of a group scheduled to visit the

United States on March 27, the tour would be shortened by half. The planned visits to military installations would be cancelled and several officials, who were to meet with the committee members, would be unavailable for interviews and briefings.

Until recently through a gentleman's agreement, Communist members were present in all committees except in the armaments group. The upward surge of the Communists in last June's Italian elections, by increasing their WEU representation, facilitated their entry into the committee from which they had hitherto been unofficially banned.

The make-up of each committee is decided by the national delegations.

Two of the three Communist members were unable to reach Brussels in time for the committee's discussion yesterday.

Only Mr. Corallo was there in time to listen to a number of reports on NATO's capacity to hit back in case of aggression, on anti-submarine warfare and communications between the Atlantic commands.

The session chairman, British Conservative M. P. Julian Critchley, afterwards noted that the committee rapporteurs had hesitated more than usual before answering questions.

To set the tone of yesterday's meeting Mr. Critchley had set up in the conference table a miniature toy Soviet tank complete with Red Star.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Following a one per cent reduction in bank "base rates", there was a further sharp rise in shares Thursday on the stock exchange although profit-taking ultimately took levels off the best. Industrial leaders finally showed gains of around six pence with ICI, Beecham, Glaxo, Metal Box, Unilever and Dunlop whilst Hawker Siddeley leaped 10 pence on news of a big order from the RAF for Harrier jump jets. In the end, the F.I. index was 5.2 points higher than last night at 3304. Textiles, shippings, banks, insurances and properties also edged ahead.

However, oils were rather irregular with British Petroleum lower and Shell improving. Gilts too looked uncertain but finally lost ground in line with sterling.

Rubbers continued higher under the lead of Guthrie but teas were dull. Golds hardened along with the bullion price. Tins were further inspired by the rising of the metal price to new peaks on the metal exchange. Diamonds and zincs also gained ground. Meanwhile in otherwise steady Japanese issues, Canon resumed its recovery.

Price of gold closed in London Thursday at 136.25.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

ABU DHABI, Feb. 17 (R). — The second conference of Gulf Arab health ministers ended a three-day session here today by adopting several resolutions, including the setting up of a special committee for pharmaceutical imports. The committee will meet in Iraq next month to draw up "an imports plan" for this year. The ministers agreed in principle to establish a training centre for health information and approved a scholarship plan proposed by Bahrain. A committee of specialists will consider the standardisation of curricula and will hold its first meeting in Riyadh in April.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AFP). — A serious natural gas shortage in the United States seems unlikely in spite of the recent harsh weather. Mr. Richard Dunham, head of the federal energy commission, said here. The Feb. 3 emergency legislation and the milder weather now mean the worst fears are over unless there is a new cold snap in the eastern United States, he said. But the public still needed to be careful and should keep their thermostats at 18 degrees centigrade. Mr. Dunham's remarks complied with news that the number of workers laid off due to gas supply problems had fallen from 1,500,000 to 500,000.

PARIS, Feb. 17 (AFP). — North Yemen's Foreign Minister Abdullah Al Asnaj left here for London today after a three-day official visit during which he signed an agreement on cultural and technical cooperation. Mr. Al Asnaj talked with a number of French officials including President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and the ministers of defence, foreign affairs, foreign trade, post offices and overseas territories.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AFP). — China has told the United States it is ready to discuss U.S. assets held in China as well as Chinese assets frozen in the United States, an authoritative source said here. The problem dates from the 1949 Chinese revolution. The United States is claiming \$196,800,000 worth of American industrial and other assets. Some \$76,500,000 worth of Chinese assets are frozen in the U.S.

FRANKFURT, Feb. 17 (AFP). — West German light-weight reactors will continue getting the slightly-enriched uranium they need, for a year or two, in spite of the supply suspension by the United States and Canada, the Nukem company said here today. Nukem Western Europe's chief importer of fissile material, gave no figure for its stock, but it said there was "sufficient" at its Hanau site near Frankfurt.

LA PASIONARIA ASKS AGAIN TO RETURN TO SPAIN

MOSCOW, Feb. 17 (AFP). — Spanish Communist Party leader Dolores Ibarruri, known as "La Pasionaria" in civil war Spain, has made a new official request to return to Spain, informed sources said today. A previous request in February last year was turned down by Madrid. The sources said the latest request, made to Spanish representatives here, was not made by Mrs. Ibarruri in person. According to her secretary Irene Falcon, who has also asked to return to Spain, Mrs. Ibarruri has been in a clinic for two weeks for medical check ups. Madrid's reply to this latest plea is expected soon. Mrs. Ibarruri, now 81, has lived quietly in the Soviet Union since 1959, after the Spanish civil war.

Giscard expects to hear of USSR's irritation at Western press' handling of subject of dissidents

PARIS, Feb. 17 (AFP). — The wave of dissidence breaking over Eastern Europe and the West's reactions to it will be discussed shortly when the Soviet Ambassador to France, Stepan Chervonenko, meets French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Officially, the Soviet diplomat requested the meeting in order to renew contacts with the French president following a two-month stay in the Soviet Union. The request is in keeping with diplomatic custom.

But the meeting -- their first since late September -- is seen as more significant than that with Mr. Chervonenko expected to express Soviet irritation at the French press' sympathetic treatment of the many dissident campaigns in the East for the respect of human rights.

It is even possible that the Soviet irritation could find its expression in postponement of a visit to France by Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, scheduled for late June or early July, according to Mr. Giscard d'Estaing.

But two factors appear to make that, eventually unlikely. For while the French press has been highly critical of repression in Eastern Europe, the French government has refrained from attacks -- unlike its Western counterparts in Washington, Vienna, the Hague and Stockholm.

In addition, Soviet leaders perhaps fear that it would be giving too much credit to the dissidents to allow them indi-

rectly to dictate Franco-Soviet relations, which have always been a model of East-West co-operation.

The Kremlin could, of course, have other reasons for cancelling the visit -- awaiting, for example, a meeting between Mr. Brezhnev and the new U.S. president, but one thing is certain: Soviet leaders are increasingly concerned by the spread of the campaign on behalf of human rights within Communist countries and its echo in the West.

The dissidence has spread from its beginning in Moscow, with the setting up of an unofficial group to monitor the implementation of the Helsinki Agreement on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

After the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Romania and even Yugoslavia joined the tide when their governments were publicly denounced for violating human rights.

To counter the campaign, the Soviet bloc nations, including recently Yugoslavia, have stepped up attacks against "Bourgeois reaction", which they accuse of trying to sabotage the forthcoming Belgrade conference -- to assess post-Helsinki achievements -- and of being behind the growth of dissident movements.

The atmosphere is heavily charged, and the 35 countries which signed the final Helsinki document will have a hard time trying to restore a climate favourable to such a conference by mid-June.

Handwritten signature in Arabic script: هوزان التهل